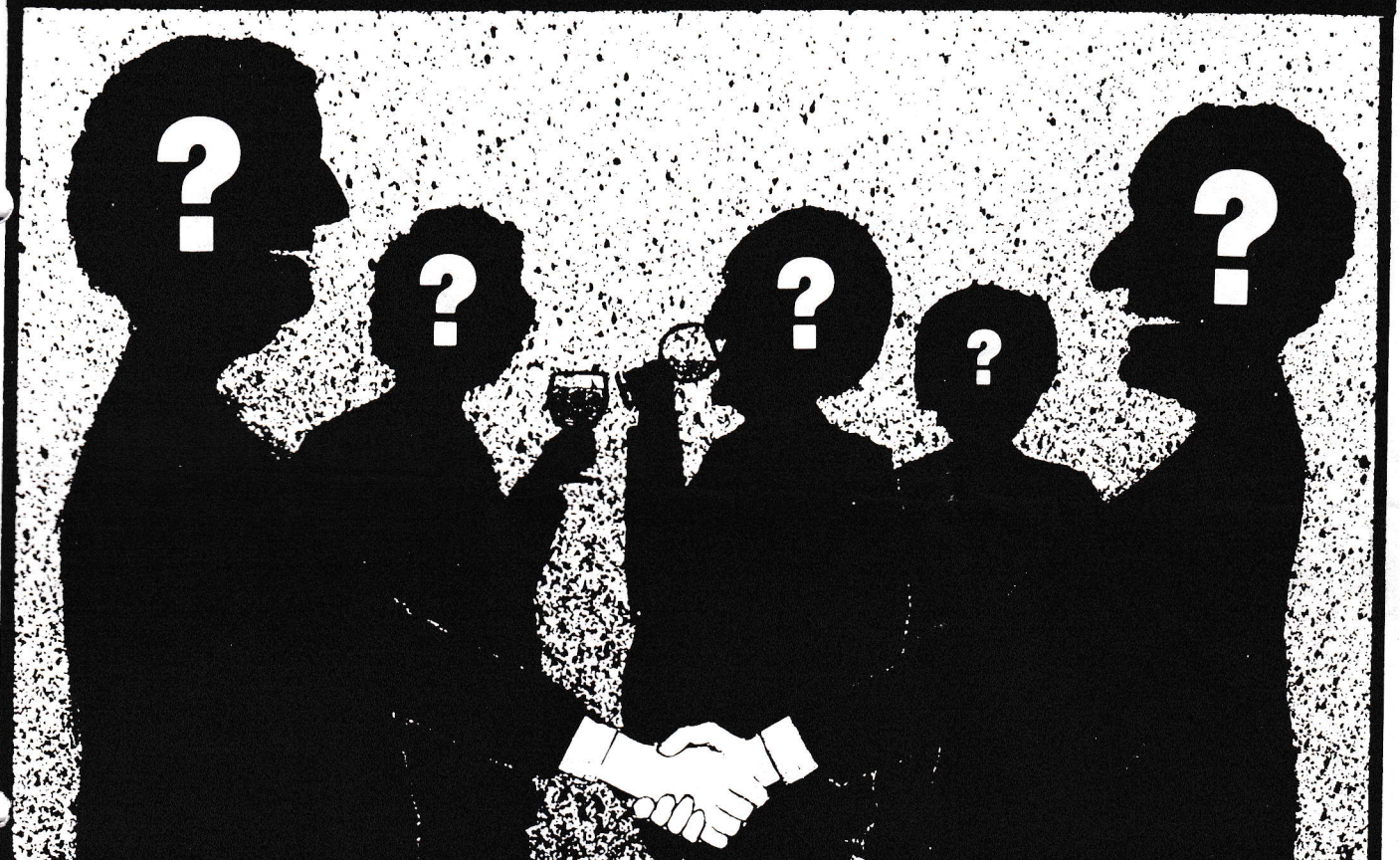
The Nov. 80 No.16 15p

EYE

The ALTERNATIVE PAPER covering
Longdendale Denton
Ashton Dukinfield
Stalybridge Mossley
Hyde & Audenshaw



Who are the local Freemasons ?

WE NAME THEM

plus Where does PHILIP DAWSON get his money?

The EYE

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NEXT ISSUE

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EYE NEEDS EARS: *send us your news*

EYE NEEDS NOSES: *sniff out the stories*

EYE NEEDS HANDS: *come and help us with layout and distribution*

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NEWS

Dogs body

Next time you see a stray dog in Tameside, have a closer look. If you see it chuckling to itself and generally looking as though it owned the place, the explanation is simple.
A while ago it looked as though the stray's number was up. A dog warden was appointed, with much trumpeting and publicity. But then the dogs wised up with a cunning that even MR. HOULDSWORTH from Environmental Health could not have foreseen. They got up their Warden's nose - literally. She became allergic to dogs and had to leave the job. So, her misfortune explains the strange case of our snickering strays, meanwhile, we understand, HOULDSWORTH is putting obstacles in the way of getting a new Warden, much to Cllr. ANNE BOOTH's annoyance.□

The search for a YES-man to be Deputy Director at Social Services is over. FOSTER - Chief at Social Services- has been pretty luke-warm about the rows of applicants paraded before him. His goose has now been cooked - Councillors have decided not to fill the post at all, as part of the cuts.

Pendry into TV

TOM PENDRY MP has stepped into the TV company franchise war. He has agreed to join a consortium that is opposing the Thames/London Weekend TV franchise in London. He reckons that he will be in a position to put "the Labour party view" and insists that he will not accept any fees offered.
MP's are apparently not allowed to be part of a TV company in their own area. However, TOM seemed a little taken aback when EYE pointed out to him that the new head of the REPORTER GROUP of newspapers, LORD BARNETSON, is also Chairman of Thames Television.□

BOOZE

Don't worry these two top cops aren't drinking on duty, for both Tameside's Commander, Chief Superintendent William McLoughlin and Superintendent Tony Woodhead celebrated their farewell to Ashton Police Station on orange juice.

The two retiring cops pictured in this ADVERTISER photo aren't "drinking on duty" according to the hack who wrote the caption. Both of them are clearly posed holding full glasses of Britvic orange where once they held truncheons. But wait, what can that be just below Superintendant Woodheads elbow on the bar? It LOOKS like a well-sipped pint of bitter.
We leave you to draw your own conclusions.□

Running away

After Xmas, people living in Hyde or Hattersley wanting to see their Social Worker may have to trek to Stalybridge. It appears that the Beeley St. offices in Hyde will have to be vacated and, so far, attempts to find alternative accomodation have failed. The plan is for the Social Workers to move into the offices currently occupied by the Finance Section in Stalybridge (they're going to the blockhouse next to Ashton town hall) Some Hattersley residents are appalled at the prospect of slow and expensive bus trips into Stalybridge. With no likelihood of help with the fares, this move seems calculated to reduce the social workers caseload Are they, in fact, running away (literally) from their problems?
By the way -Probation in Hyde are also to loose their market St. offices soon. They beat Social Services to the Municipal Buildings behind the Town Hall - they had a much better bid, because they are funded by the Home office!□

EX-PET

Roland's TV

Last month's pet, ROLAND BARDSLEY was no 'pet' at all in the eyes of the firm he used to rent his TV from. A few years ago, ROLAND was so preoccupied with making money that he clean forgot to pay the rent. And before he knew it the firm had someone round to re-posses the TV.
Which brings us to the problem of carelessness at play, because watching the squash at Carriages could be more dangerous than you'd expect.
No doubt dazzled by the excellent facilities for TV camera crews in the public gallery looking down on a squash court, the inspectors seem to have missed something. The fire escape door at the top of the gallery leads to a fifteen foot drop into another Court.□

NEWS

Crafty Oldham

The LABOUR PARTY in Longendale - which gave us Tameside's current council leader ROY OLDHAM and other such marvels - is going into the ANTIQUE BUSINESS!
ROY's just had planning permission for his Ward Party to turn part of the Mottram Co-op into a 'craft and antique shop.' We reckon its the work of all these middle class trendies who've been infiltrating the People's Party recently. They'll be opening a Whole-food shop and sauna next! □

MEDIA

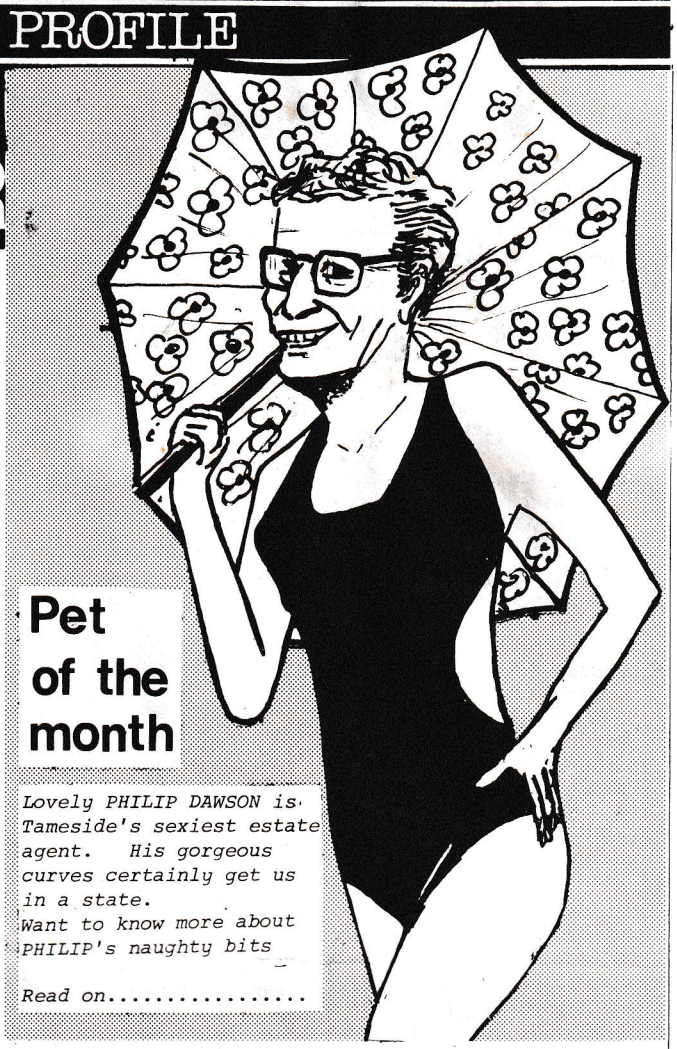
blaming everybody else.
(1) I blame the government for keeping interest rates high and allowing the market to be flooded with cheap foreign imports.
(2) I blame trade unions for making wage demands that firms simply can't afford and which only go to fuel inflation.
(3) I blame weak managements who do not re-invest and fail

BRYAN CHADWICK watchers have drawn our attention once again to his weekly 'comment' column in the ADVERTISER.
In a Sept. issue, ADVERTISER Editor BRYAN mentioned his good self no fewer than nine times in amongst his usual flow of opinionated drivel.
Only three other people were mentioned by name, and one of them was a 5 year old lad.
The way he's going on 28-year-old-media-superstar BRYAN is almost certain to get our BORE OF THE YEAR award this Christmas. □

EYE SPIES SKINNER

Hattersley Residents Association has now got off the ground, but at the packed inaugural meeting proceedings were marred by the presence of FRANK SKINNER on the platform. FRANK is one of the people who had to be found a job after local Government reorganisation - he ended up as 'Community Liason Officer' otherwise known as Tameside's fully paid up community group spy.
The number of groups FRANK has dabbled in is legion - YEW TREE RESIDENTS and TAMESIDE COMMUNITY PROJECTS UNIT to name but two - usually leaving behind him nothing but muddle and unkept promises.
So it was tragic to see FRANK making a meeting of Hattersley tenants angry about rent rises and the repairs back-log, wade through a boring constitution of his own making, during which FRANK got his facts utterly wrong by referring to the 3000 homes on Hattersley. ~~XH~~
There are over 4000 homes on Hattersley and some tenants were unsure whether they were part of the quarter FRANK had missed.
EYE wishes Hattersley Residents luck, with FRANK SKINNER on the Committee they'll need it! □

PROFILE



Pet of the month

Lovely PHILIP DAWSON is Tameside's sexiest estate agent. His gorgeous curves certainly get us in a state.
Want to know more about PHILIP's naughty bits

Read on.....

PHILIP DAWSON is MR. PROPERTY in Tameside. The deals he's involved in and the private companies he owns have touched the lives of many people in the area during the past two decades.

PHILIP DAWSON's major interest in life is money some of it is tied up in the Magenta "V" reg. Daimler he drives around in, whilst even more is in Thornecliffe Hall, Hollingworth, where he and his second wife Joan live.

property

His other main interest is property deals - thousands of them. And we are not talking simply of the Estate Agents fees he collects through W.C. DAWSON & SON- the agency set up by his father which he now runs together with RICHARD GRAINGER.
No, PHILIP DAWSON deals directly through many different companies in property. Companies like HADOVER LTD, ROECROSS ESTATES LTD, BRADBRIDGE PROPERTY CO.LTD, STALEY PROPERTY INVESTMENT LTD. DAWSON PROPERTIES (M/cr) LTD., and BRADFORD PROPERTY TRUST LTD.
The common link through many of the people he keeps in tow is the Tory party.

Tory links

He was a Tory Councillor for Dukinfield from May 1960 until nearly the end of the sixties
He was Chairman of Finance Committee whilst working for his father's estate agents. By late 1966 he had been joined on council by his good friend DEREK HARTLE (see EYE 15) the local engineering millionaire, and fellow property speculator.
In the early '70's DAWSON got local Govt. improvement Grants for the properties he bought. He also got planning permission to build or make alterations. During 1973 one of ROECROSS ESTATES properties was independently valued for a take-over by BRADBRIDGE PROPERTY CO.LTD. The valuer commented that if DAWSON could get the relevant planning permisson , some of his Copley property would be worth an extra £4,000.

CONTINUED OVER▶

SHORTS

A while ago we reported the sad case of BROADBOTTOM CONSERVATIVE CLUB being done for after hours drinking. Well, the police are NOT political - we understand the latest club to get caught downing one too many is DENTON LIBERAL CLUB. □

EYE sends its humblest apologies to Tameside's Director of Maladministration for getting his Christian name wrong in last issues article about local Rotary clubs. We called him DENNIS LEEMING instead of DOUGLAS LEEMING. Oops!! Did it again! Got his surname wrong this time. Silly old us! Sorry DENNIS. □

EYE gets results!
Or does it?
Following our article last month on BETTY DUNDAVON- the 69 year old DUKINFIELD woman who was refused a guide dog- she had a visit from two Social Services people to tell her that she could have her guide dog after all?
No. Not exactly. They came to tell her once again that there was no chance. □

Fearless local lawyer PETER PLUCK, was in court the other day prosecuting a man for starving a goose to death. It's a far cry from Perry Mason. □

Where is Mr. Rexstraw?

A Stalybridge businessman has disappeared under mysterious circumstances.

WALTER HENSHAW LTD. of Preston and Chorley bought STALEY INSURANCE BROKERS from PETER REXSTRAW last July. Under the agreement REXSTRAW was supposed to remain a Director of his old firm for a year, but his wife was to resign her directorship immediately.
Nothing odd about that.
But a month after the sale the windows of STALEY INSURANCE offices in Portland Sq.Stalybridge were whited over and a notice appeared in the window announcing that WALTER HENSHAW LTD. had liquidated the company they had bought so recently.
People who had bought insurance through the disbanded company were advised to check their cover with the insurance companies themselves.
And PETER REXSTRAW the man who had sold them their insurance, was nowhere to be found.
What happened between July and August 1980?
Nobody who knows seems willing to say very much.
After the news of the liquidation broke the managing director of WALTER HENSHAW LTD., GORDON WHITELEY, made a vague statement.
He said that his company had bought STALEY INSURANCE from REXSTRAW "on the basis of certain facts".
"But" he went on "certain matters have proved to be NOT AS THEY WERE REPRESENTED TO OUR COMPANY."
MR. REXSTRAW told fibs to HENSHAWS before the sale?
What about?
We rung HENSHAWS Preston office. GORDON WHITELEY was "not available for comment."

But, a friendly secretary did confirm that HENSHAWS wanted to find REXSTRAW but couldn't.

'investigating'

She said they were still 'investigating' the matter.
What matter? And had anything illegal gone on?
She couldn't comment.
So we rung up KEITH BENNISON another Stalybridge insurance broker who has been appointed by Lloyds to deal with people who had 'bought' insurance cover from them through REXSTRAW.
MR. BENNISON wouldn't come to the phone but did tell his personal secretary to tell us that he too, "did-not care to comment" on the affair.
So we decided to contact MR. REXSTRAW himself.
He has a house in Tameside but recently moved to ANGLESEY. The local operator couldn't find a P.REXSTRAW in the ANGLESEY phone book.
So we contacted the Chester main exchange.
Yes. There WAS a PETER REXSTRAW on the phone in ANGLESEY, but the number was ex-directory.
A cautious man MR. REXSTRAW.
We couldn't afford the plane fare to ANGLESEY.
And the chances were that REXSTRAW wasn't there anyway.
So, we rung around our Stalybridge contacts.
A picture of PETER REXSTRAW and his way of business began to emerge. He was not a local man born and bred. But no-one seemed to know where he did come from.
He set up STALEY INSURANCE BROKERS three years ago in an old property rented from the GPO. As far as we could ascertain he had no insurance qualifications (you don't need them to set up in the broking business).
But he seems to have made a lot of money pretty quickly out of it.
There were stories of expensive fast cars. And, of course, he did move from Tameside to the somewhat more select country environment of ANGLESEY.

cover notes

His firm, it seems, issued an unusually large number of cover notes to clients.
And sometimes there notes were not followed up by official certificates.
We heard stories of people who paid for, but discovered later that, for some reason, they were not actually covered. The son of a leading member of the Tameside Labour Party is said to have lost around £800 in this way.

All this would explain why the insurance companies are advising REXSTRAW clients to 'check their cover' with them.
It doesn't fully explain why everyone involved with REXSTRAW is being so cagey.
Nor does it fully explain the curious disappearance of the man at the centre of the affair, MR. PETER REXSTRAW himself. □

con't from p.3

DAWSON

DAWSON's close associates on Stalybridge Council included Chairmen of Housing NORMAN HEYS now Chairman of Longendale Housing Soc. for whom DAWSON collects the rent; then SAM HALL, local representative of the builders SIMPSON AND COOKE who put up many houses in Carrbrook, around another of DAWSON's properties - Carrbrook shopping centre.
When the battle for comprehensives was being waged DAWSON stepped in and let the 11+ group have their offices at his Old St. Ashton premises.
Recently DAWSON's contacts have expanded to include members of the current Tory Govt.

Willie

Recently PHILIP offered the Home Secretary WILLIAM WHITELAW a short, sharp bath at Thornecliffe Hall then he and WILLIE WHITELAW, local Tory's COLIN GRANTHAM and ALAN FEARN smiled for the Reporter's cameras. He also has a Tory Knight as a Co-Director(SIR HENRY WARNER) on BRADBRIDGE. SIR HENRY is an even bigger property wheel than PHILIP and no doubt brings a touch of class into play. He was educated at ETON and at OXFORD. SIR HENRY'S gardener appeared in court for forging SIR HENRY'S cheques in 1974.

Demolition

DAWSON likes to keep things in the family. His Estate Agent partner RICHARD is the son of DICK GRAINGER - who runs the WHARF TAVERN in Stalybridge, and used to do demolition work for DAWSON's father. The pub was in fact the site for Tory Ward meetings.

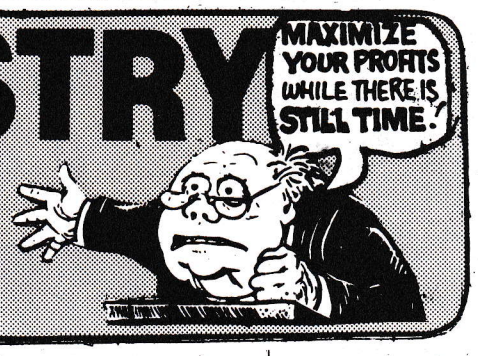
Then there was his Uncle BENJAMIN ADDY. ADDY junior - a Bookie by trade who also claimed fame by swimming across Morecambe Bay - was a partner with DAWSON in ASHTON OFFICE SUPPLIES. This bright idea must have dimmed, as they never traded. Nor for that matter did PHILIP's ventures into petrol stations. But his wife, JOAN, had her own company called HYLOCREST - to run a laundrette in Carrbrook Shopping Centre.

These days PHILIP associates with people like Frank HIGTON in their Co. called HADOVER Ltd. FRANK is a South Tameside JP, and a Director of several DEREK HARTLE interests.

Copley Mill

Copley Mill, renamed by DAWSON as St. Paul's trading Estate, is connected with HADOVER Ltd. In fact outline planning permission has been organised by DAWSON for the building of industrial units with asbestos roofs at the rear of Copley Mill. This latest venture took place in August this year. No doubt there will be plenty more yet. □

INDUSTRY PAGE



Glynwed

Just fourteen days before 700 Audenshaw shopfloor workers (plus staff) are made redundant GLYNWED shareholders will be getting their half-yearly dividend. And it will be the SAME bounty as last year.

Workers at GLYNWEDs "Planet" works - Leisure and Domestic Division and Aga Head Appliances - received news of their December 31st sacking in a heart-rending letter from management. It was full of 'regret' and wished them well in the future. Notice of the closure was just two days before the whole workforce took a week's holiday.

Only two years ago the Leisure and Domestic Division was - in Chairman Leslie Fletcher's own words - "especially successful". But a closer look at the 1978 Annual report shows that GLYNWED's Directors have embarked on a deliberate policy of shifting their industrial base overseas:

* Whilst the workforce in the UK has gone down the numbers GLYNWED employs abroad have risen.
* Profitability of the company was maintained by their South African factories' "good results".

Meanwhile, questions are being asked about why work was contracted to a non-Union workplace called WATSONS. This and other questions about lost contracts will no doubt be put to Manager LAMB when the holiday finishes. As we go to press ERNIE STAFFORD (AUEW full timer) says he expects a mass meeting to be called straightaway.

The Board of Directors will not be worried about the sackings in Audenshaw. Director SIR DENNIS BARNES is used to dealing with the unemployed. After a degree at Oxford he has spent his life as a career Civil Servant in the Labour Ministry, now Dept. of Employment. He ended up as Chairman of the Manpower Services Commission - in charge of job creation schemes.

It comes as no surprise therefore that GLYNWED has been using the temporary employment subsidy at Audenshaw. And for those who think Civil Servants are neutral, its worth noting that £10,000 went from GLYNWED into the coffers of the Conservative Party in 1978 alone.□

Amusements

The latest plan to rip-off the young unamployed comes from POTTERIES AMUSEMENT ARCADES LTD. This Stoke-on-Trent based firm have applied for planning permission to turn a shop on Hattersley into an arcade of the "Johnny go Home" ilk. Needless to say many local residents are opposed to the move.

POTTERIES started life in 1973 as a company devoted to property speculation, with a relative-of the Royal family and a son of the EARL OF HAREWOOD on the Board, the HON GERALD LASCELLES. His interests seem to be mainly in motor racing, as he is also on the board at SILVERSTONE CIRCUITS LTD. By now, however, the company has moved on from property deals to 'night clubs, funfairs, etc.'

POTTERIES have been busy in Withington and Moss Side in Manchester too, where they have applied recently for permission to start up their arcades of amusement. The feeling on Hattersley is that if they think these Arcades are what is needed, why don't they stay in Stoke?□

Prenwain

PRENWAIN DEVELOPMENTS LTD are applying for planning permission to build thirty 2-bedroomed terraced houses with space for 42 cars, in Carrbrook. A quick look at their latest accounts shows there is still plenty of profit to be made in property deals. In the 15 months until March 1978 PRENWAIN had a turnover of £3.5 million and a trading profit of nearly £400,000 was made on it. DAVID JOSEPH KNOTT, then Chairman, paid himself £11,294 for his labours. At this time PRENWAIN, half of which DAVID KNOTT owns, had assets worth £650,000, which probably explains why DAVID won't need to buy one of his own 2-bedroomed houses- he lives miles away in a slightly bigger place called "Windy Howe" in Alderley Edge.

David's daddy, JOSEPH KNOTT, also owns shares in PRENWAIN, and is President of Stalybridge Celtic Football club.□

A MONTHLY CATALOGUE OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR.....

There's been a fine crop of noisy, smelly factories in HYDE recently. Needless to say, SMITH BROTHERS LTD. are still at it, boiling up dead animals at their MILL LANE factory to produce the indescribably disgusting KINGSTON STINK.

But this month there's also been WILLIAM KENYON & CO.LTD. who've been disturbing people on DUKINFIELD RD. with a racket from their heaters.

Then there's the chimney at WALLS MEAT CO. in GODLEY which appears to have got overloaded with sausages or something because it's been spewing out horrible black smut everywhere.

Fancy stinks from the sludge plant run by the fancy named BRUNNSCHWEILER (UK) LTD. on Sharp St. The council reckon its Hydrogen sulphide.

Factories making anti-social noises at night include SENIOR SERVICE on Gregory St. and HERRINGSHAW STEELS LTD. on Talbot Rd.

Moving away from HYDE we discovered that STERLING COATED MATERIALS in DUKINFIELD have been upsetting the neighbours with nasty noises and so has ALBION MILL in STALYBRIDGE which seems to have an anti-social extractor fan - and so has the STALYBRIDGE LIBERAL CLUB. More serious though, are the horrible fumes seeping out from AOCM LTD. on TOWN ST., STALYBRIDGE. The council stink-men are investigating.□

Chemstar

CHEMSTAR LTD. the tiny Carrbrook chemical co. is being taken to court by Tameside for making big smells and messes and not doing anything about it. Interesting to note that CHEMSTAR Directors GEORGE EDWARD BINGHAM of 16 Parsonage Rd. Heaton Moor, DEREK GILL of "The Ochils" Park Lane Burnley and GEORGE MOLYNEUX of 31 Quarry Clough Stalybridge, don't appear to have filed any company accounts with Company House in London for some time. This is legal requirement.□

The top local Freemasons

The worlds largest sec
60 lodges in the area..

FREEM

In the course of our investigations into the secrets of the local masonry we have collected the names of hundreds of masons, past and present. This issue we focus on the men who run the ASHTON MASONIC LODGE and their associates.

The Directors of the MASONIC HALL in 1978 (the latest date we have reliable information for) were Worshipful Brother RUPERT DEAN WOOD , W.Bro. ROBERT JOHNSTONE; W.Bro. FRANK FITTON, W. Bro. GEORGE WINTERBOTTOM; W.Br. WILLIAM HYDE, W.Bro. F. CARR and W.Bro.ROLAND CLEGG.
The prefix Worshipful Brother means that they are 'Grand Officers' in the masons.
But who are these men?
RUPERT WOOD (who died on Sept.25th 1979) was the snr. partner in RUPERT WOOD and SON, the Ashton Solicitors. When he died he left to his son RUPERT Jnr. the local J.P. and his daughter KATHLEEN £32,307.

Before he died RUPERT Snr. was the President of the ASHTON STAMFORD BUILDING SOCIETY which has assets of over £2.5m. and close connections with a number of Tameside property companies. Interesting to note that RUPERTS fellow board member at the Ashton Stamford Building Soc. is a former Director of the Ashton Masonic Hall: local estate agent and W.Bro. ROLAND CORDINGLEY. ROLANDs son DAVID CORDINGLEY is also a JP and a colleague of RUPERT's son RUPERT on the Ashton bench.
Getting back to the Ashton Lodges.
W.Bro. ROBERT JOHNSTONE is one of the Johnstones in JOHNSTONES PAINTS, which has its head offices at Stonebridge House, Edge Lane, DROYLSDEN and made a £1m. profit in '79.
W.Bro. FRANK FITTON is a Director of BARKER AND ASHWORTHS LTD. of 4 Ryecroft St. Ashton. W.Bro. WILLIAM HYDE, who lives at 'The Tannery' Lily Lanes Ashton is a civil engineer and W.Bro. ROLAND CLEGG is a Director of CARR CLEGG AND SONS LTD., Clothing Manufacturers of Clarence Mill, Stalybridge.
Past Directors of the Masonic Hall include W. Bro. ROBERT SWINDELLS of Minorca House, Hollingworth, W.Bro.SWINDELLS is also an Ashton JP, a Director of the BERWIN RUBBER CO.LTD. and an old boy of GLOSSOP GRAMMAR SCHOOL and a President of the Longendale and Glossop Footpath Society.

Then there was W.Bro. FRED CALLADINE of 'CarrCottage' Carrbrook. He's a chemist and well,well, another JP. FRED was also on the TAMESIDE AREA HEALTH AUTHORITY in 1975.
Finally, before we pass on to the Masonic rank and file-there appeared on our secret list of top Masons the name of W.Bro. PETER LOMAS who owns G.A. LOMAS & CO.LTD a firm of Brinnington Builders who have a site office in Godley, Hyde.

If we listed ALL the names of ordinary Ashton and District Masons we have on file, we'd need a book. So we'll stick to the ones since 1974.
We were intrigued to find the name of ANTHONY KEITH BOOK on our list of MASONIC HALL shareholders.

TONY BOOK - MASON?

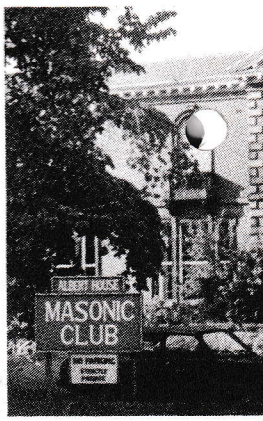
Further investigation confirmed that he IS the recently sacked manager of MANCHESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB! There was also JOHN WIDDOWSON the self-employed businessman and ASHTON ROTARIAN.

We'll just list the rest. If you find YOUR bosses name there do let us know won't you ?

THE LIST

MALCOLM SMITH; FRED MARKHAM; JOHN VINCENT BYRNE; KENNETH MUNTON; FRANCIS WILLIAM BENNET; HARRY LEWISS; JOHN RAVENSCROFT; COLIN WAGGOT; DEREK KENNY; ROY TAYLOR; BRYAN DOWN; MALCOLM HAMILTON; FRANCES CHARLES HEYWOOD; PHILIP ROBERTS; GEORGE McCATHIE, MICHAEL DOYLE, WILLIAM ERNEST GREENWOOD; ALFRED HENRY BENTLY; FRANK EASTWOOD; JOHN EDWARD JARVIS; KENNETH HUGHES; WILFRED ERNEST JACKSON; JAMES WILLIAM WILCOX; WILLIAM VINCENT SHELDON; RONALD NIXON; ROY ELLISON; ADRIAN JOHN WOOD; JOHN EDWARD CREDLAND; GRAHAM SCHOLES; RONALD GEORGE ROWSTON; DENNIS ALBERT FLETCHER; NORMAN GRAY, JOHN HOPE DICKSON, ALWYN SMITH; RICHARD WILSON; FRANK SHAW THOMAS OGDEN; WILLIAN GEORGE HAND; THOMAS GERALD BALL; ARTHUR MAYALL; EDWARD BUCKLEY ALLEN; KEITH GRENFELL DUFFY; DENNIS FOWDEN; KEITH MASON; MARTYN COOPER; PETER RENNIEKENDALL;HARRY CREATHORN; JOHN VICTOR TOR DOUGLAS RANSDEN; JOHN DAVID CROWTHER; BRIAN HALL; WILLIAM HUTCHINSON: JAMES WILLIAM JACOBY; ERIC SMITH (sic); MAURICE HOLDEN; JOHN FREDERICK PEPPER. DAVID WILLIAMS; JOHN FRANK COGGAN; ANTHONY NUTTAL; HARRY GORDON HOWARD; GERALD BANKES POPPLE; MALCOLM WALKER□

ASHTON M



The local masons bought it in 1920 for £2,100 from Lady Francis Alice Anderson of Kensington London and Mrs. Mary Carew of Ballinamora Park, Waterford, Ireland in order to provide 'club rooms, billiard rooms, bars, refreshments, dining rooms and other conveniences for the use of Masonic Lodges members thereof and their friends.'
The Directors of the Ashton Under Lyne Masonic Hall Ltd. have always been Grand officials in the Ashton Masons. Most, if not all, of the share holders are also Masons. The first 'Directors' way back in 1920 were all drawn from the middle classes of Ashton,Dukinfield and Hyde.
There was GEORGE DAVIES

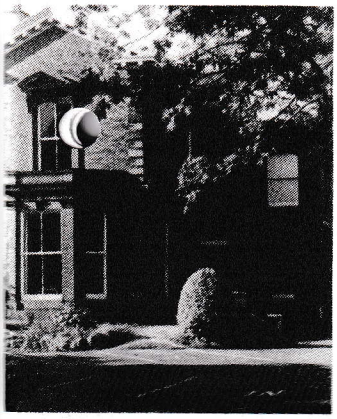
MASONS

Every King of England for the last century and a half has been a Freemason.
And most of them have been the movements official leader.
Edward the V11 - the playboy King was initiated in 1868 and made Grand Master in 1874.
In 1919 the future Edward V111 (who and becam Windsor)
In 1936 h Provincia
After hi year late to the th also succ Provinci
In 1952 burgh wa

et society has over
.. EYE INVESTIGATES...

ASONS

ASONIC HALL



of Sunderland Ave AUL an accountant; GEORGE VICKERS of Villiers St. AUL; a retired army officer; there was FRED REED of King St Dukinfield, an engineer; HAROLD HYDE or 'Rosemount' AUL, a solicitor; NORMAN PENNINGTON of Mellor Rd AUL, a schoolmaster; THOMAS EARNSHAW of Greesar House AUL a cotton merchant; and there was JOSEPH SANDERSON of Chanworth St. Stalybridge, a master baker.

The 1920 masons made their money from 'Tame side' but they also lived here.
Many of the 1979 Directors make their money here but live outside dirty old Tameside, in the leafier suburbs of Manchester.□

& ROYALTY

ıter abdicated The Queen is the wrong
:he Duke of sex to be a Freemason but
s initiated. like Queen Victoria
:oo was made before her, she is the
Grand Master. 'Grand Patron' of the
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his successor Girls and other masonic
ıe George VI bodies.
ıed him as
Grand Master. The current Grand Master
Duke of Edin- is the Duke of Kent.□
ıitiated.

What is a Freemason?

The Freemasons are the world's largest secret society.
There are over 5,900,000 members all over the world. The majority - 4,000,000 or so live in the British Isles or the USA.
The movement originated from medieval guilds - or Unions - of stone-masons. When the industry declined some Lodges let in voluntary members to keep numbers up.
In the 17th and 18th century Lodges began to adopt symbolic rites from ancient religious orders.
In 1717 English Lodges joined together to form the first Grand Lodge.
Since then its gone from strength to strength. Recruiting very largely from the ruling class of every period. And spreading all over the world as the British Empire grew.
Freemasonry is not a religion. And it is not Christian.
But Masons do have to be adult males who believe in the existence of a supreme being and the immortality of the soul.

Masonic lodges have often been accused of prejudice against Jews, Catholics and blacks. In the States all-white Lodges rejected negro Lodges. In the deep south Masonic lodges developed connections with the Klu Klux Klan.
Nowadays, Masons in this country deny any prejudice. And it is likely that any that still exists has more to do with the traditional and quite normal bigotry of the British establishment rather than anything particularly masonic.

There are three major degreesof freemasonry. An apprentice'a 'fellow of the craft' and a 'master mason'. Each step up the ladder is accompanied by peculiar ceremonies.
At its best, Masonry is a game for big soft overgrown lads who like the idea of playing at being in a secret society giving secret handshakes and chanting mumbo-jumbo.
At its worst it is a way of maintaining a develor ing the links and contacts between the British ruling class at all levels from the local solicitor in Tameside- to top ranking politicians, even Royalty.□

Where and when they meet

There are no fewer than 64 Masonic Lodges in the Tameside area.
These Lodges are organised around centres in nearly all the major towns Each individual Lodge has a handful of members and a special name. They meet regularly on the same day every month.
Once a year there is a meeting to initiate new members.
So if your boss has a habit of disappearing at the same time very month he COULD be seeing his fancy woman, he MIGHT be playing golf or he could be off to a meeting of the local Masons!
Here's a list of all the Tameside Masonic Lodges with their regular meeting times. If you want to see who's in YOUR local masons, just hang around outside the meeting place at the right time and watch them coming in.

THE ASHTON LODGES
MEETING PLACE: THE MASONIC HALL, ALBERT HOUSE, JOWETTS WALK, ASHTON.

Duke of Athol 1st W.10-5
Minerva 1st Th. 9-5
Union 3rd Th. 9-5
Fidelity 3rd W. 9-4
Milton 2nd Th. 8-5
Waverley 2nd Th. 9-4
King George V.4thT.9-5
Kershaw 2nd T. 9-5
Equity 2nd W. 9-5
Denton 4th W. 9-5
Stamford 2nd M. 9-5
Assheton 1st.M. 10-5
Hartshead 3rd M. 9-5

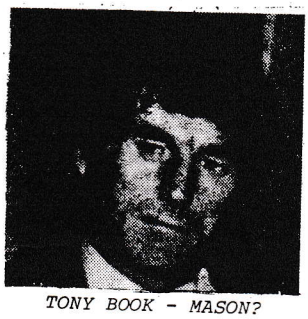
THE AUDENSHAW LODGES
St.Johns 3rd W.9-4
Concord 3rd W. 9-4
Egerton
Longsight 1st W. 9-5
Lord Stanley 2nd M. 10-5
Reddish 1st S. 11-5
Fraternity 3rd T. 9-4
Prince Arthur 4th M. 9-5
Audenshaw 2nd T. 9-4
Libra 2nd T. 9-5
Aldwyn 2nd Th. 9-4
Slade 1st T. 9-5
Vale 4th Th. 9-5
Peace and Harmony 3rd Th. 10-4
Fairfield 2nd W. 10-5
M/C Ulster 4th T. 9-3

Cont. on next page.

The worlds largest secret society has over 60 lodges in the area.... EYE INVESTIGATES...

FREEMASONS

If we listed ALL the names of ordinary Ashton and District Masons we have on file, we'd need a book. So we'll stick to the ones since 1974.
We were intrigued to find the name of ANTHONY KEITH BOOK on our list of MASONIC HALL shareholders.

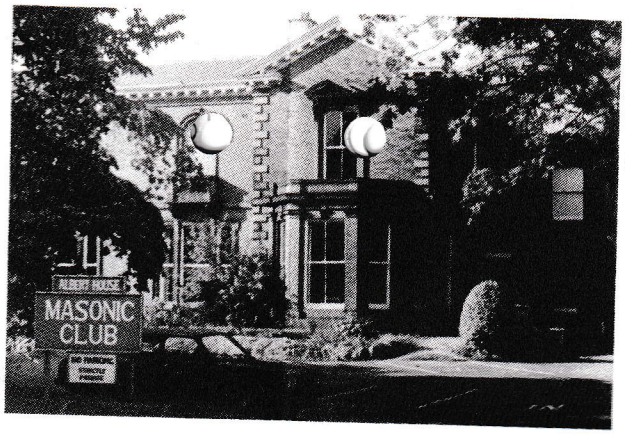


TONY BOOK - MASON?

Further investigation confirmed that he IS the recently sacked manager of MANCHESTER CITY FOOTBALL CLUB! There was also JOHN WIDDOWSON the self-employed businessman and ASHTON ROTARIAN.

We'll just list the rest. If you find YOUR bosses name there do let us know won't you ?

ASHTON MASONIC HALL



The local masons bought it in 1920 for £2,100 from Lady Francis Alice Anderson of Kensington London and Mrs. Mary Carew of Ballinamora Park, Waterford, Ireland in order to provide 'club rooms, billiard rooms, bars, refreshments, dining rooms and other conveniences for the use of Masonic Lodges members thereof and their friends.'
The Directors of the Ashton Under Lyne Masonic Hall Ltd. have always been Grand officials in the Ashton Masons. Most, if not all, of the share holders are also Masons. The first 'Directors' way back in 1920 were all drawn from the middle classes of Ashton, Dukinfield and Hyde.
There was GEORGE DAVIES of Sunderland Ave AUL an accountant; GEORGE VICKERS of Villiers St. AUL; a retired army officer; there was FRED REED of King St Dukinfield, an engineer; HAROLD HYDE or 'Rosemount' AUL, a solicitor; NORMAN PENNINGTON of Mellor Rd AUL, a schoolmaster; THOMAS EARNSHAW of Greenar House AUL a cotton merchant; and there was JOSEPH SANDERSON of Channworth St. Stalybridge; a master baker.

The 1920 masons made their money from 'Tame side' but they also lived here.
Many of the 1979 Directors make their money here but live outside dirty old Tameside, in the leafier suburbs of Manchester.□

THE LIST

HOPE DICKSON, ALWYN SMITH; RICHARD WILSON; FRANK SHAW THOMAS OGDEN; WILLIAN GEORGE HAND; THOMAS GERALD BALL; ARTHUR MAYALL; EDWARD BUCKLEY ALLEN; KEITH GRENFELL DUFFY; DENNIS FOWDEN; KEITH MASON; MARTYN COOPER; PETER RENNIEKENDALL; HARRY CREATHORN; JOHN VICTOR TOR DOUGLAS RANSDEN; JOHN DAVID CROWTHER; BRIAN HALL; WILLIAM HUTCHINSON: JAMES WILLIAM JACOBY; ERIC SMITH (sic); MAURICE HOLDEN; JOHN FREDERICK PEPPER. DAVID WILLIAMS; JOHN FRANK COGGAN; ANTHONY NUTTAL; HARRY GORDON HOWARD; GERALD BANKES POPPLE; MALCOLM WALKER□

MASONS & ROYALTY

Every King of England for the last century and a half has been a Freemason.
And most of them have been the movements official leader.
Edward the V11 - the playboy King was initiated in 1868 and made Grand Master in 1874.
In 1919 the future Edward V111 (who later abdicated and became the Duke of Windsor) was initiated.
In 1936 he too was made Provincial Grand Master.
After his abdication a year later, his successor to the throne George V1 also succeeded him as Provincial Grand Master.
In 1952 the Duke of Edinburgh was initiated.
The Queen is the wrong sex to be a Freemason but like Queen Victoria before her, she is the 'Grand Patron' of the Royal Masonic Institute for Girls and other masonic bodies.

The current Grand Master is the Duke of Kent.□

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Here's a list
Tameside Mason

Masons cont.

Dene Head 1st S.11-5
Gorton 2nd W. 10-5
Prestwich 4th T. 9-5
Parnassus 2nd Th. 9-4
Unitas
Court
Honesty 2nd Th. 10-5
Dignity 3rd Th. 9-5
AUL District Lodge of Installed masters
1st/5th Th. 1-3;7-9;10-12
Delamere 1st T. 9-5
Pennice 4th M. 9-5
Jubilee 1st W. 9-5

THE DUKINFIELD LODGES
MEETING PLACE: THE MASONIC HALL, OLD RD.
Unanimity 2nd T. 10-5
Endevour 3rd T. 9-5
Astley 1st T. 10-5
Dukinfield 2nd Th. 9-4
Integrity 3rd Th. 9-4
Good Fellowship 1stF.10-5

THE HYDE LODGES
MEETING PLACE: THE OAKLAND, MOTTRAM RD.
Industry 3rd Th. 9-5
Fortitude Lst.W. 9-5
Newton 1st.W. 9-5
Hyde 1st T. 9-5
Oaklands 3rd M. 9-5
Glenwood
Lodge of St.Christopher 3rd T. 9-4

THE STALYBRIDGE LODGES
MEETING PLACE: THE MASONIC HALL, STAMFORD ST.
Loyalty 2nd W. 9-5
Moira 2nd Th. 9-5
Royal
Edward 1st M. 9-5
Stanley 2nd S. 9-5
Victory 3rd W. 9-5
E.Ches.
Thanksgiving 4th T. 9-5
Stalybridge 3rd S. 9-5 ,

ABBREVIATIONS
1st M. indicates that the Lodge meets the first Monday in every month.

WORLD MASONS

Freemasonry, like football was carried to the furthest reaches of the globe by British Empire builders Whenever Imperialists set up a Colony or a Protectorate over some luckless native state, they also set up Masonic Lodges in Gibralta, Malta, Bengal, Sri Lanka, the Seychelles, Tanzania, Ghana, South Africa, Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone, The Gambia, Zambia, Barbados, Jamaica, Newfoundland, Sth, America Australia, New Zealand, Trinidad and Canada.
The Masons are strongest typically, in what used to be called 'The white dominions' of Canada.
Australia and SthAfrica.
In third world countries nearly all the leading Masons are of European origin; mostly British

Housing

A GREEDY STORY....

THE PROSPECT OF BIG-MONEY PROFITS HAS TURNED A PEACEFUL MIDDLE CLASS HOUSING ESTATE IN BROADBOTTOM INTO A HIVE OF GOSSIP, SUSPICION AND MUTUAL RECRIMINATION

"The Longendale Hill-End Housing Association" owns 40 well-appointed, modern rented houses just off the main road between Mottram and Broadbottom.
The Association is a "Housing Co-op".
This means it is run by the tenants themselves.
And they run it very well.
The tenants include men and women with a lot of business acumen - stockbrokers, builders, Granada TV men - who manage to make a small profit every year on the rents and mortgage repayments.

But these modest collective gains pale into insignificance compared with profits offered to each tenant by a recent change in the Housing Law.
Since August, the members of the Hill-End Housing Co-op have had the right to buy their rented houses.
And, unlike council tenants, they can also sell them again immediately if they so choose.
The price to the tenant is very low - about £4,600.
And simply covers the remaining mortgage re-payments.
But the Market Value of the houses range between £26,000 and £38,000. So a tenant who bought his house for £4,600 and sold it immediately for £38,000 would get a tax-free profit of £32,000.

Oops

But there's a catch.
Under the new law ALL the tenants in the Co-op have got to buy or none of them can.
This puts the less well off association members in a difficult position.
At least one woman on the estate simply cannot afford to buy. But, the law DOES say that the other tenants can buy her house for her if they so choose.
Some members of the Co-op were keen to do this.
But their motives weren't entirely charitable.

Nasty

They had ideas of selling the womans house immediately afterwards throwing her out and sharing the loot betweem themselves and the other Co-op members. Until they found they couldn't do that.
If they buy the house for the woman - says the law- the house is hers.
And she can't be chucked out.
There were unpleasant little scenes at the annual General Meeting of the Co-op in August, when this was discovered.
What if the others on the estate claimed they could-not buy?
The wealthier tenants would have to buy THEIR houses as well, simply inorder to be able to buy their own!
That wasn't on!
They would all put £100 or so into the kitty to buy this one womans house.
But there would be no more charitable deeds like that.
Compromise. Peace.
Then more trouble occured.
The Co-op members discovered that the Co-op chairman FRED SHANAHAN - who rents 25 Homefarm Ave., was planning to keep £100 on every house sold.
This was payment for the work he was putting into organising sales.
But it did mean that if 40 houses were sold, HE would get his house scot-free.
Some of FREDS neighbours were very angry.
EVERYONE was going to get something for nothing.
But SHANAHAN, it seemed, was going to get more for nothing than THEY were.
Disgusting! There was even talk of refusing to sell altogether (and thus losing £20,000 of personal profit) in order to put the kibosh on Mr. SHANAHAN.

In the end FRED reduced his cut to £25.
Which seemed to calm the troubled waters.
For a while.
Then the rumours about a businessman from London started up.
Some-one, it seems, was going round the estate offering to buy houses for the poorer tenants at well above the £4,600 asking-price, but for a lot less than the £20,000 plus market price.
The tenant would make a profit.

Albert

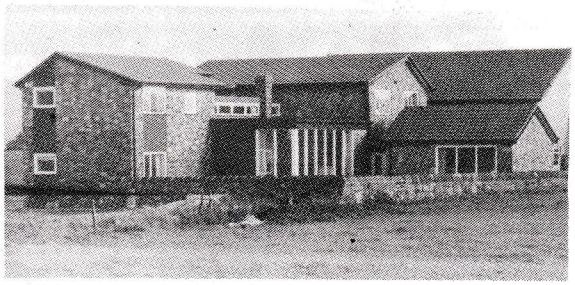
But the mystery-man would make an even bigger one when he sold it again on the open market.
Some of the Co-op members are speculating whether this mystery purchaser is in any way connected with fellow-tenant ALBERT BOOTH who has been going around talking about similar deals
Not ALL the Hill-End tenants are after a fast buck.
The majority simply want to own a house.

Cash

But there are people on the estate - and outsiders- who see Mrs. Thatchers new Housing Laws as a chance to make a lot of money quickly.

There is nothing illegal in this.
And the only people who will suffer are the potential tenants of the future.
People in need of relatively cheap accomodation that would have been available at Hill-End - and in similar estates all over the country □

..AND AN EVERY-DAY STORY OF COUNTRY FOLK



HULLOCK'S MANSION

"THE MUDD" WAS A PEACEFUL BIT OF MOTTRAM FARMLAND CRISS-CROSSED BY WELL - TRODDEN FOOTPATHS AND SURROUNDED BY BEAUTIFUL VIEWS.....UNTIL TWO WELL OFF BUSINESSMEN MOVED IN..

MR. HULLOCKS and MR. ELLIOT bought farms right next door to each other on "THE MUDD" in the early '70's. ELLIOT bought PARSONAGE FARM and HULLOCKS bought LOWER MUDD FARM. Both HULLOCKS and ELLIOT had made their money in the cut and thrust of city business life. Which may account for their behaviour in the Mottram countryside.
ELLIOT runs JUNCTION TRANSPORT in Stalybridge, and GEORGE HULLOCKS is Chairman and chief shareholder (with his wife PAULINE) of G.R. HULLOCKS LTD. a sizeable firm of Tameside Builders Merchants.

PROFITS

HULLOCKS is the wealthier of the two.
He paid himself a Chairman's salary of £15,000 in 1978 and retained profits of £38,201.

HULLOCKS first act after buying LOWER MUDD FARM was to bulldoze the old farmhouse and build an extraordinary £100,000 plus mansion on the site. Although this enormous building looks just like a golf club- it appears to house only HULLOCKS himself, his wife and his two public school sons.
When HULLOCKS had completed his mansion part of the public road had somehow found itself BEHIND a HULLOCKS fence, a cart-track traditionally used by a local farmer had gone and a footpath which happened to run across HULLOCKS land had vanished beneath his drive. A spanking new white gate now stood where the footpath had begun.

When people who had lived at THE MUDD all their lives complained HULLOCKS said there had never been a footpath there. The neighbours brought in a coachload of councillors.
When they arrived Cllr. SYLVIA SWIFFIN was more interested in what HULLOCKS had done to the old barn standing next to his golf club mansion, this barn now possessed gorgeous casement windows.
MRS. SWIFFIN could not remember giving planning permission for that barn to be turned into a residence.
But PAULINE HULLOCKS assured them that the barn was not in fact a residence.

SOME OF ELLIOT'S RUBBISH

It was a 'cow-parlour'.
And the HULLOCKS do own a number of cows.
As their next door neighbour farmer well remembers.
Because they trampled all over his fields one day.
He complained, and HULLOCKS told him that the faulty fences were not his responsibility.
In fact they were. Farming lore makes animal-owners responsible for the fences that contain their animals, whether the fences actually belong to them or not.
For some reason HULLOCKS - who already owns most of the land leading down to THE HAGUE, was interested in buying more.
He approached his neighbour MR. ELLIOT on the other side.
Although ELLIOT had been at THE MUDD no longer than HULLOCKS he was ready to sell out. His wife hated the place and he was having one or two difficulties with the Inland Revenue.
He decided to sell the land next to HULLOCKS and the farmhouse but would keep another field he owned for other purposes he had in mind.

The farmhouse went first. ELLIOT had bought it for about £6,000 in the early '70's. He is reported to have sold it for £60,000. ELLIOT hadn't expected this windfall so he went back on the deal with HULLOCKS.
He moved his family to a comfortable house on STALYBRIDGE's posh MOTTRAM RD. and began to plot plans for the future.

His first move was to try and get permission for a private housing estate on the field which had stood next to Parsonage Farm. Cllr. ROY OLDHAM and ELLIOTs neighbours stopped this.

In the meantime he's busy at work on the field he didn't sell to HULLOCKS. A small shanty town of sheds has sprung up, with electricity and water laid on. He's had ROLAND BARDSLEY in to lay concrete foundations. The net result is a local eyesore. Cement mixers and a pile of bricks and rubbish dumped on common-land.

PLANNING

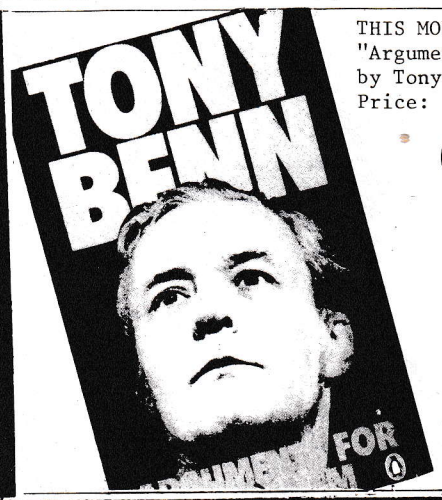
He wants a new farm house- "Ranch-style". He claims that he'll have no trouble getting planning permission for it. And the work he's doing in preparation is perfectly legal without planning permission.
But he's not keen on people coming too close.

Last summer alittle kid who tried to fish in the ponds on his farm fell foul of MR. ELLIOT, who broke his rod and sent him packing. For years the farmer who owned the land before ELLIOT had allowed kids to fish there. He even issued special permits. It was a local tradition. Like the footpaths and the quiet. And the common land. Things which rich men moving into the area appear not to understand.

SOCIAL SERVICES

KIDS...

GERRY WYNN, a Senior Social Work officer, conducted a survey into kids in 'care' this spring.
It is now becoming clear that some of them were being kept in the so-called Community Homes for Education (the old approved schools) when there was no need. EYE also understands that a similar survey conducted in both Stockport and Rochdale revealed the same story.
Kids are only meant to go into Community Homes when there is some "risk danger" to them or when "the home environment" is considered unsuitable.
Yet in Tameside, it emerged one child ended up in a Home by not attending school!
On a more encouraging note, the Special Care Scheme for fostering teenage kids has started well Already two teenagers previously in homes at Wetherby and Southport have found foster parents in the Borough.



THIS MONTH'S BESTSELLER!
"Arguments for Socialism"
by Tony Benn
Price: £1.50

GRASS ROOTS BOOKS
BOOKS
BOOKS
1 newton street
piccadilly, manchester
m11hw tel 061 236 3112

THE VALLEY POETS

IN CONCERT at GUIDE BRIDGE THEATRE
OCTOBER 26th at 7.30 P.M.

The Programme will include:
* A Story to make your whiskers curl by Jim Andrews
* A Comedy Sketch by Tom Evans
* Poems from the Valley Poets and Tarantula
* Songs and humour from Tim Norfolk

SPECIAL GUEST: Harvey Kershaw - The Lancashire dialect Poet from Rochdale

COMPERE: Harry Ogden, folksinger and presenter of Piccadilly's Folkspan Programme.

"Lucky" Programmes £1 in advance from the Theatre or from The Organ, Hollingworth (3rd Sunday of each month at 8.30 for Poems and Pints). £1.25 on the night.

BROADBOTTOM FILM CLUB PRESENTS.....

Ken Russell's "TOMMY" with The Who - its next film on show on Sunday October 26th. At Broadbottom Community Centre at 8 p.m. Annual M/ship £2.50 + 60p per film show; Guest Tickets:£1.25 Details:Mottram 62570

* The next meeting of the RIGHT TO WORK CAMPAIGN will be held at the AUEW Hall, Margaret St, AUL, on Thursday October 23rd at 8.00 p.m.

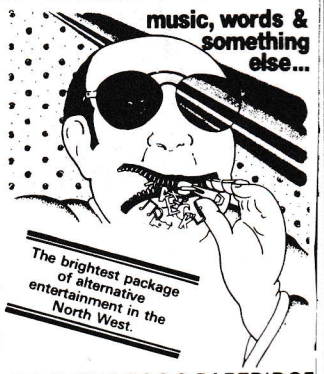
* ASHTON AGAINST THE MISSILES are showing "The Wargame" - the controversial film about the effects of Nuclear war, banned by the BBC. See it at the AUEW Hall, Margaret St. AUL at 8.00 pm on Sunday 9th November. Admission 30 p.

* HYDE AGAINST THE MISSILES are holding a public meeting on November 14th at 8.00pm in Dukinfield Town Hall. Speakers include Dr.Nora Davies (UNA) Rev. Willets. Also "The Wargame" will be on in Hyde and Glossop - PROVIDED they can find a venue - any offers? They have already been refused some Church Halls. Apparently the film was considered too controversial (Ed.- funny, we thought Churches were in favour of peace.) More details - Sonya Enticknap MOTTRAM 64723.

* MEN AGAINST SEXISM - One day Manchester Conference at Slade Lane Neighbourhood Centre, 642, Stockport Rd, M13. The conference starts at 10.00 am on Sat. 1st November. More details from Rcik - 225 0012 or Alan/Colin 226 1520.

* BRITISH TRUST FOR CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS All you need is wellies, waterproofs and butties. Contact Mike Bray on Shaw 844264 for more details or write to Mike S-ith, 56 Hobson Cres, Audenshaw.

STAND & DELIVER!



ALL AT THE DOG & PARTRIDGE
BROOK ST., ASHTON-U-LYNE.

8.30p.m.

Friday October 24th
Burning Deck

This talented poetry-music trio will re-enact their Wild West dreams with C & W and musical satire.

Friday November 7th
Ernie Dalton

Highly-gifted founder member of North West Spanner Theatre, will perform the "Pub Premiere" of his one-man show "I a Mongrel".

PEOPLES' FESTIVAL!

****
*SUNDAY NOV. 30th *
* at *
* BELLE VUE *
* *
11 a.m. to 11 p.m.
* *
****

A full day of Politics, Films, Music, Theatre & Surprises!
Including:
Mick McGahey;
7:84 Theatre Company;
M6 Theatre;
Pit Prop Theatre;
First ever Festival of North West Films;
Brass Bands;
Evening Rock Concert.

KIDS!
You can enjoy yourselves at the Children's Festival and leave us to look after the parents.

DETAILS:

Ring Paul on 224.5378
*If you would like a stall for your organisation, a few are still available.

ORGANISED BY G.M.C.P.

Hello Readers! I'm back

How sad I was to hear that my good friend and fellow Tory THOMAS REID has resigned his job as Accountant at the DROYLSDEN Nite-Spot CARRIAGES.

It seems that TOMMY had a bit of a to do with CARRIAGES owner ROLAND BARDSLEY during a party ROLAND was giving for the birthday of ANNE BARDSLEY his second wife.

TOMMY took exception to something ROLAND said about his wife GWEN. Words were spoken, beer was thrown and THOMAS stormed out. ROLAND's son is now training for the job.

Wretch

Open Your EYE Each Month

EYE now out regularly every month - see Page Two for all the details.

CAST THEATRE GROUP are performing in the area in early November.....
...Mossley 4315 for all the details.

friend

A Counselling and Befriending Organisation for Homosexuals

236 6283

POLITICS

Who's in charge of Tameside's Wreckreation Dept There are three contenders - Longendale Cllr. PAUL SMITH has been substituting recently for the official Chairman, RAY SLAMON of Haughton Green, whilst RAY was ill. RAY's back now, but the Mayor, GEORGE (the mad) HATTON is going around telling folk that RAY is only a stand in and that Wee-Georgeie himself will be resuming the post after he hangs up his Mayoral-lavatory-chain and silly-gown next year.

□ □ □

COLIN GRANTHAM - the leader of Tameside's 'taxi-cab' party of Tory councillors - has missed yet another meeting of the Education Committee. He hasn't made a single one since last May when his Party got annihilated at the Tameside Polls.

□ □ □

Picture if you can September's full Council: the scene is a raging debate about the £7,000 loss made by our local Fun Palace, Tameside Theatre; our leader ROY OLDHAM is busy reading the latest issue of TAMESIDE EYE (and wondering if he too will find his name in that scurrilous rag, once he's an MP); Our ex-leader, Cllr. GRANTHAM cries out that the Officers running the theatre have about as much 'flair as a burnt-out candle'; Libraries and Arts boss Cllr. SYLVIA SWIFFIN defends their performance saying:' I've seen the figures for next month, and they're much brighter'.

TENANTS INSULTED

Calling all Manchester Council tenants: do you recognise yourselves in these cartoons? No? It will come as no surprise that these are to be found illustrating the latest glossy publication to come out of Manchester's Housing Dept. called "In arrears". This is a guide to advice workers and housing officers on how to deal with tenants who get in arrears with the rent.

Nothing is in the guide about people falling behind on the rent because of unemployment, redundancy or social security cuts.

This insulting but convenient image of Council tenants will no doubt make it all the more painless for the Housing Manager, as he carries out the next eviction.

POST

Dear EYE,

Mr. JAMES ANDERTON's latest outburst against 'creepy minorities' and the 'race relations industry' will take us one step further on the road to a complete breakdown of the democratic society he claims to uphold.

Anyone genuinely concerned about democracy and the right to hold radical opinions should be very worried about the direction the Anderton's of this country are leading us. It is now commonplace to see pictures in the press and TV of armed police, riot shields and all the paraphernalia of a police state on our own streets. Radical groups, strikers, black organisations are increasingly being labelled as 'criminal subversives', taking us perilously close to the outright suppression of political dissent.

The police force itself is getting increasingly divorced from the community it is supposed to serve with potentially dangerous results. The events in Bristol's St. Paul's could easily erupt in Moss side, parts of Bolton, Oldham and other towns in Greater Manchester.

To develop a new relationship between police and public from which both would benefit it would make sense to give the district and city councils direct control over the police forces service those areas. A police committee on each local council with representatives from community bodies as well as councillors and police representatives would be a step away from the precipice on which we are now teetering-

The police have a vitally important role to play in our society. To receive the sort of support they need from the community to do their job well and effectively, it is essential that they work under clearly laid down democratic controls, and not become a law unto themselves.

Yours sincerely,
PAUL SALVESON
Area Secretary,
Greater Manchester
Communist Party,
28 Hathersage Rd,
Manchester M13 OFE

SAINT THOMAS

How does Rev. DENNIS THOMAS, vicar of St.Marks Dukinfield do it? Not only is he Chaplain to Manchester Police, but also to MAYOR GEORGE HATTON at the same time.

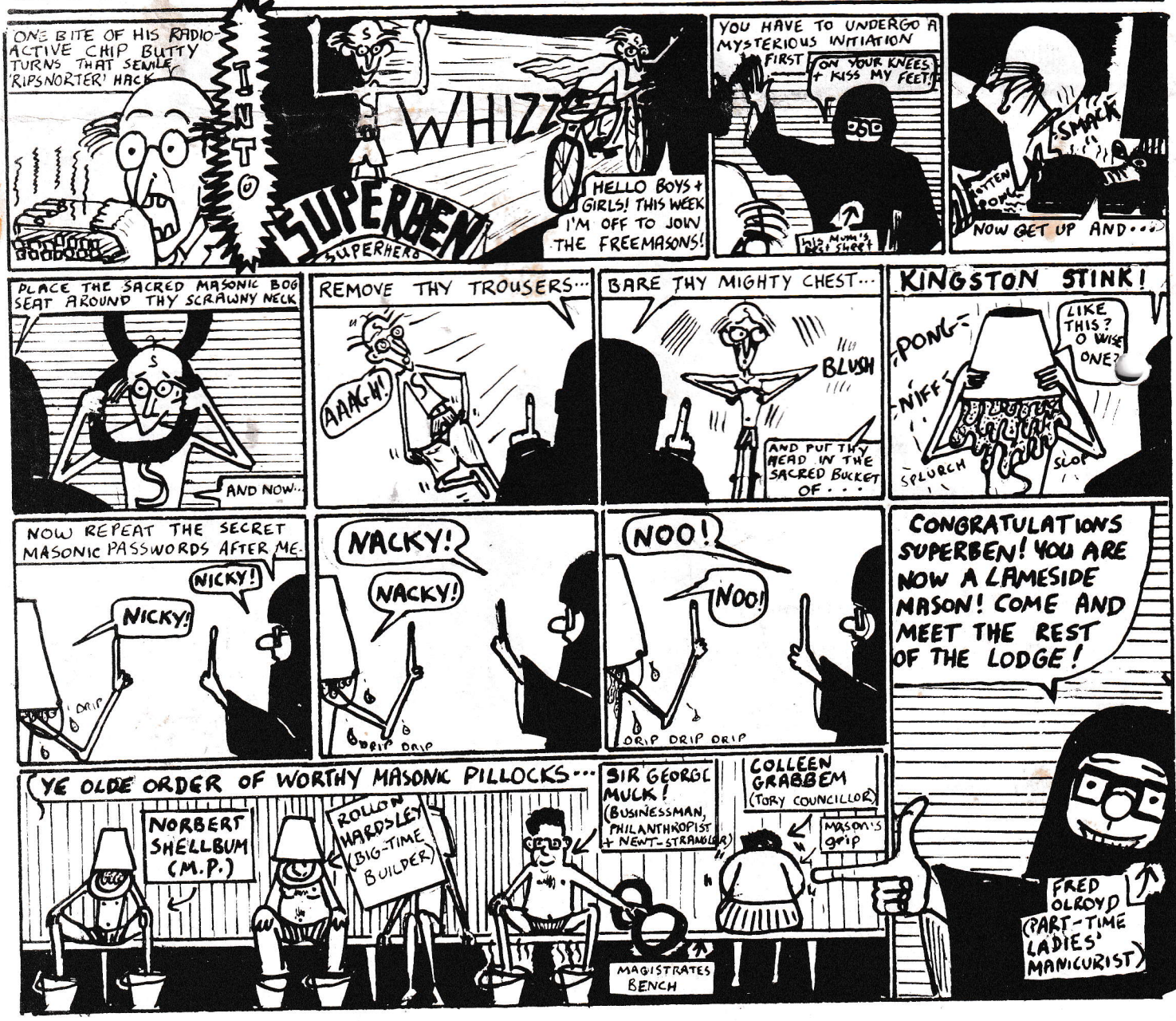
When he's not persuading GEORGE there's no need to resign, he's being the sole trustee of the buildings of Tameside's new independent grammar school and helping Tory DONALD THORPE out of a jam. And when he's not being a trustee, he likes to be the Tory nominee to the School Governors at the Lakes School in Dukinfield. Last year he was Chairman of the Governors and liked that so much he hopes to be appointed this year too. Some of his parishioners don't mind him being vicar, don't mind even him being Chairman of Tameside Play Council, nor even his involvement with the failed job creation project Tameside Community Projects Unit, but they do wonder which side of the fence he's on. Not least because many of them vote Labour. How does he do it ?

Uncle Ben

Hallo, Boys and Girls!
This week, just for a change, I'm going to write my usual load of sycophantic drivel about a local V.I.P.
Sir Hugh Mekon M.P. was a Trashton mill-owner in the Nineteenth century.
Sir Hugh got to be famous by making lots and lots of lovely money, being filthy rich and very powerful. He was dearly beloved by all his factory hands because he wasn't quite as nasty to them as all the other mill-owners at that time. In our Drawing you can see Sir Hugh being not-quite-as-nasty to a pair of miserable 19th-century social security spongers.
Sir Hugh was so well-loved by everyone that when he died they built a statue of him just so that the poor starving pigeons would have somewhere to poo.

For you to colour

SUPERBEN . . . MEETS THE MASONS!


ONE BITE OF HIS RADIO-ACTIVE CHIP BUTTY TURNS THAT SENILE 'RIPSNORTER' HACK INTO
WHIZZ
SUPERBEN SUPERHERO
HELLO BOYS + GIRLS! THIS WEEK I'M OFF TO JOIN THE FREEMASONS!
YOU HAVE TO UNDERGO A MYSTERIOUS INITIATION FIRST
ON YOUR KNEES + KISS MY FEET!
SMACK
ROTTEN POTATO
NOW GET UP AND . . .
PLACE THE SACRED MASONIC BOG SEAT AROUND THY SCRAWNY NECK
AND NOW . .
REMOVE THY TROUSERS . . .
AAAGH!
BARE THY MIGHTY CHEST . . .
BLUSH
AND PUT THY HEAD IN THE SACRED BUCKET OF . . .
KINGSTON STINK!
PONG
NIFF
LIKE THIS? O WISE ONE?
SPLURCH
SLOP
NOW REPEAT THE SECRET MASONIC PASSWORDS AFTER ME.
NICKY!
NICKY!
DRIP
NACKY!
NACKY!
DRIP DRIP
NOO!
NOO!
DRIP DRIP DRIP
CONGRATULATIONS SUPERBEN! YOU ARE NOW A LAMESIDE MASON! COME AND MEET THE REST OF THE LODGE!
YE OLDE ORDER OF WORTHY MASONIC PILLOCKS . . .
NORBERT SHELLBUM (M.P.)
ROLLON HARDSLEY (BIG-TIME BUILDER)
SIR GEORGE MULK! (BUSINESSMAN, PHILANTHROPIST + NEWT-STRANGLER)
COLLEEN GRABBEM (TORY COUNCILLOR)
MASON'S grip
MAGISTRATES BENCH
FRED OLROYD (PART-TIME LADIES' MANICURIST)